

## **Judge Matthew W. Williams**

Judge Matthew W. Williams joined the King County Superior Court bench on January 9, 2017. He filled the position previously occupied by Judge Palmer Robinson, who retired from the bench.

Prior to being elected to the Superior Court, Judge Williams served six years as a District Court Judge in King County, Washington. He began his legal career with the Attorneys General of Nebraska, Iowa, and Washington State handling death penalty/criminal appeals and complex commercial and tax litigation. Subsequently, he supervised Federal drug, weapons, and aviation enforcement. He served as a Supervising Assistant City Attorney for the City of Seattle's major litigation unit and as the Managing Attorney of a large law office based in Tacoma, Washington. He also served as a General Manager with a national insurance carrier where he implemented best practices and data driven decision making. He has served as a Special Disciplinary Counsel for the Washington State Bar Association and is a former Trustee of the Washington Defense Trial Lawyers.

Since 1991 he has taught trial advocacy and served as an Adjunct Professor at Seattle University School of Law (University of Puget Sound). He served as the Director of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) Trial and Deposition Programs and has served many terms as faculty team leader at Emory Law School's renowned Kessler-Eidson Trial Techniques Program. Since 1999 Judge Williams has led advocacy training for judges, prosecutors, advocates, & law enforcement personnel throughout the United States as well as South America, Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, and within the Former Soviet Republics. Almost all of his time off the bench is devoted to Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Initiatives around the world.

Judge Williams received a BS in Economics from the University of Nebraska (1980), and a JD from the University of Nebraska School of Law (1983). He has been trained as a collision reconstructionist, and served as a trainer of Washington State Law Enforcement and Private Sector personnel in the sciences of Collision Reconstruction and Forensics.

Judge Williams holds the rank of Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and has served as a martial arts and personal defense instructor. He is a pilot and has logged over a thousand hours of pilot-in-command hours throughout the United States.